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322
[437] iron hoe, which is also made by the Yaruro out of any heavy scrap of iron that they may gather. Sometimes they will work for the ranchers and with their earnings purchase this type of hoe from a trader. However, such a digging tool is quite a luxury and sharpened sticks are more common.

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322 **MORTARS AND PESTLES.**—During the rainy season, the Yaruros gather *chigua*, a seed, which they dry and pound into flour. Mortars

of wood shaped as shown in figure 20, *a*, *b*, are used and the pestle is any ordinary hard stick.

COOKING LADLES.—These are small wooden paddles used in cooking, especially when meat is boiling in a pot (fig. 20, *e*).

HAMMOCKS.—The Yaruros prefer to sleep on the sands, especially during the dry season. The men make hammocks, however, small ones generally used by children as cradles, and by the women shamans when they sing, during the day. During the rainy season they may employ them for sleeping.

The fiber employed to make the hammock string comes from the *moriche* leaf. The string may be very fine, of course, depending on the interest of the maker. It is made by the men. To weave the hammock a loom is made of two poles thrust into the sand to

FIGURE 20.—*a*, *b*, Wooden mortar. *c*, Bone or iron point used for hunting *chiguire*. *d*, Hook used for *manatee*. *e*, Cooking paddle.

which are fastened two crosspieces at both the top and bottom. The string is then wound around these crosspieces. The weaver employs a knotter's netting technique. When the entire hammock has been woven the weaving is held in place by another string thrust through one of the woven rows.

[137]
283 **RORZ.**—The fiber mostly employed by the Yaruros is taken from the leaf of the *moriche* and the *macanilla*. The inner cortex of the leaf is stripped off and dried and then is taken apart strand by strand. These long fibers are then moistened and twisted together in two's and three's into a string by rolling them on the thigh with the palm of the hand. A stronger string is made in the same way and used for making hammocks. The bow strings are made from the fiber of the *macanilla*.

291 after I had been among the Yaruros for a time the women often dis-
177 carded their camisoles, even though I were present.

291 The men would normally wear a breechclout which originally was
286 woven by the women from the fibers of the moriche palm leaf, but
462 now it consists of a piece of cloth. Formerly the women wove wide
belts of the same fiber for the men, but this is no longer done. The
breechclout is held in place by a string tied around the waist.

291 The women, underneath their camisoles, still wear the old-fash-
287 ioned Yaruro girdle, which is made from the fibers of the moriche
palm. The fibers, which are about 2 feet long, are fastened together
at one end. This end is slipped through a hair rope tied around
the waist, and the whole mass of fibers passes between their legs and
under the waist string. Plate 25, 47 shows a Yaruro woman wearing
one of these girdles. It is fastened in such a way that an enormous
knot is formed in the rear, and when wearing their camisole the women
have the appearance of sporting large tails.

562 The women on the whole seem to be more conservative than the
291 men in their clothing and body decorations. Below the knees and
301 around the ankles they wear a thin string, and often they have
necklaces of carved asabache figures, which are shown in plate 21.

DELOUSING TOOL

412 An implement that is in great vogue is the delousing tool shown in
515 plate 20, 2. The serrated end is used as a comb to expose the lice,
which are seized between the fingers and crushed between the teeth.
The pointed end is employed to crush blisters raised on the body by
462 mosquito bites. These tools, also fashioned by the men, are used
302 exclusively by the women to groom their menfolk and each other.

CARRYING NETS

482 Carrying nets, of the knotless variety, are woven and used to
286 carry children and food. When carrying children the net is slung
854 across the chest from one shoulder; when carrying food it is sup-
ported by the head.

COOKING

252 The culinary art among the Yaruro is poorly developed. Much
462 of the fruit and the eggs are eaten raw. Fish is eaten half raw and
the meat of the crocodiles and turtles is merely warmed over the
fire. Sometimes the meat is boiled. In the afternoon the women
who have gathered firewood are to be found in camp waiting
patiently for the men. On the hot coals they will have eggs and
changuango. If the hunt is successful, and no hunt is considered

2 [see category 116, end plate 15, Analyst]

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Landesta, a shaman, weaving a hammock. Hammocks are made by men.

(End Plate 9)